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FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS OPERATION IN SOMALIA II

Report of the Fifth Committee (Part III)

Rapporteur: Mr. Mahbub KABIR (Bangladesh)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The previous recommendations made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under agenda item 137 appear in the reports of the Committee contained in documents A/48/820 and Add.1.

2. At its 51st and 55th meetings, on 11 and 23 March 1994, the Fifth Committee considered the item on the financing of the United Nations Operation in Somalia II.

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.5/48/L.48

3. At its 55th meeting on 23 March 1994, the representative of Ireland, on behalf of the Chairman of the Fifth Committee, introduced draft resolution A/C.5/48/L.48, and orally revised it.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/48/L.48, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 6).

5. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of this item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/48/SR.51 and 55).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Operation in Somalia II

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Operation in Somalia II 1/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 2/

Bearing in mind Security Council resolutions 751 (1992) of 24 April 1992, by which the Council established the United Nations Operation in Somalia, and 886 (1993) of 18 November 1993, by which it extended the mandate of the United Nations Operation in Somalia II until 31 May 1994,

Bearing in mind also Security Council resolution 897 (1994) of 4 February 1994, by which the Council authorized the gradual reduction of the United Nations Operation in Somalia II to a force level of up to 22,000, and necessary support elements, such force level to be reviewed at the next renewal of the mandate,

Recalling its decision 48/471 of 23 December 1993 on the financing of the United Nations Operation in Somalia,

Reaffirming that the costs of the United Nations Operation in Somalia are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decision regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the United Nations Operation in Somalia, a different procedure is required from the one applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Operation in Somalia with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. Takes note of the status of contributions to the United Nations Operation in Somalia as at 22 March 1994, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 153,104,873 dollars;

1/ A/48/850 and Corr.1.

2/ A/48/899.

2. Expresses concern about the deteriorating financial situation with regard to peace-keeping activities owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments, particularly Member States in arrears;

3. Expresses deep concern about the adverse effect that the deteriorating financial situation has on reimbursement to troop contributors, placing an additional burden on these countries and putting at risk the continuing supply of troops to the United Nations Operation in Somalia and, consequently, the effective implementation of its mandate;

4. Reaffirms its resolution 48/227 of 23 December 1993 and stresses the need for the Secretariat to present budget documents in time in order to allow for a proper and thorough review and approval by the General Assembly of these budgets before their implementation;

5. Notes with satisfaction an improvement in the compliance by the Secretariat with certain resolutions of the General Assembly concerning the form of budget documents concerning peace-keeping operations;

6. Reaffirms the importance of the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions as an [independent] advisory body to the General Assembly in the budget process;

7. Reiterates its decision 48/__ of March 1994 [A/C.5/48/L.43] requesting the Board of Auditors to conduct a special audit of all aspects of procurement contracts for peace-keeping operations and observer missions;

8. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions 2/ subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

9. Takes note, in the context of paragraphs 39 to 41 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions 2/ of the additional information provided by the Secretariat regarding the essential nature and long-term cost-effectiveness of the provisions made for logistical services;

10. Recommends that the Secretariat actively pursue all available means to deliver such services at more economical rates;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the United Nations Operation in Somalia II is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy and, in particular, to implement fully economy, financial and efficiency measures to be approved during the resumed forty-eighth session and no later than 1 May 1994 and to report on the implementation of such measures in the context of the performance report relevant to the period;

12. Urges all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the United Nations Operation in Somalia II in full and on time;

13. Affirms that the non-payment and late payment of assessed contributions in full and on time as well as the fact that the General Assembly has unfortunately been led to consider approving peace-keeping operation budgets without adequate documentation have damaged and continue to damage the ability of peace-keeping operations to implement their activities effectively;

14. Requests the Secretary-General to explore all possibilities in order to ensure prompt reimbursement to troop-contributing countries;

15. Decides to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Operation in Somalia II, in accordance with the recommendations contained in paragraph 52 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 2/ for the United Nations Operation in Somalia II, a total amount of 639,399,300 dollars gross (634,214,900 dollars net) for the period from 1 November 1993 to 31 May 1994;

16. Decides also as an ad hoc arrangement to apportion the additional amount of 513,203,800 dollars gross (509,214,900 dollars net) for the period from 1 November 1993 to 31 May 1994, taking into account the amount of 126,195,500 dollars gross (125 million dollars net) already apportioned in accordance with General Assembly decision 48/471, among Member States in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991 and 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, and decision 48/471, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1992, 1993 and 1994 as set out in its resolution 46/221 A of 20 December 1991 and its decisions 47/456 of 23 December 1992 and 48/223 A of 23 December 1993;

17. Decides further that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolutions 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 16 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 5,184,400 dollars for the period from 1 November 1993 to 31 May 1994 approved for the United Nations Operation in Somalia II;

18. Decides that there shall be set off against the apportionment of Member States, as provided for in paragraph 17 above, their respective share in the unencumbered balance of 56,027,000 dollars gross (53,018,000 dollars net) for the period from 1 May to 31 October 1993;

19. Requests the Secretary-General, in view of the amounts of the unencumbered balances which arise in some peace-keeping operations, to study the feasibility of a possible retention of the shares of Member States in the unencumbered balances of peace-keeping operations until the Member States meet all outstanding obligations in respect of the period concerned, and to report to the Assembly in the context of agenda item 138, no later than 31 May 1994;

20. Authorizes the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the United Nations Operation in Somalia II at a rate not to exceed 77,442,517 dollars gross (76,332,417 dollars net) per month for a period of four months beginning 1 June 1994 and, subject to the Security Council deciding to

extend the mandate of the Operation beyond 31 May 1994, the amount of 154,885,034 dollars gross (152,664,834 dollars net) to be apportioned among Member States in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution;

21. Requests the Secretary-General to submit budget proposals, including revised estimates for the period the Security Council might have decided to continue the mandate of the United Nations Operation in Somalia II beyond 31 May 1994, not later than 15 July 1994;

22. Invites voluntary contributions to the United Nations Operation in Somalia II in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 43/230 of 21 December 1988, 44/192 A of 21 December 1989 and 45/258 of 3 May 1991;

23. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that all United Nations activities related to the United Nations Operation in Somalia II are administered under the authority of his Special Representative in a coordinated fashion with a maximum of efficiency and economy and in accordance with the relevant mandate, and to include information on the arrangements made in this regard in his report on the financing of the Operation;

24. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Operation in Somalia II".